



Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church Smithtown, New York 11787

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Good Friday Tenebrae April 7, 2023 † 7:30 p.m.

† The sanctuary begins in light and descends into darkness. †

The service of "Tenebrae" is an ancient Holy Week devotion, which was first used in the seventh or eighth century after Christ. The name itself means "darkness", and the service is so named because of the ceremony of extinguishing candles, thus gradually casting the church into complete darkness.

No service during the entire Church Year is as biblical as Tenebrae. Every word of the service is taken verbatim from the Scriptures.

The service is divided into three sections (Nocturns), and each section is divided into six portions – three Psalms and three Lessons, interspersed with versicles and responses and hymns. The mood of the service is one of penitence, the sorrow of the Church over the death of Christ. The Lord's Prayer is prayed a number of times, in whispers, to express the continued need of God's mercy. Throughout the organ is muted.

The gradual extinguishing of candles represents a general falling away from Christ. Even the disciples forsook him and fled. The central candle, the "Christ Candle", is symbolic of our Lord Himself, and is never put out. After the final prayer, a time of silence is observed, during which the Christ Candle is removed and concealed. After a few moments of silence is broken by a loud noise, and the candle is returned. This represents our Lord's death, and His resurrection.

Worshippers may remain seated throughout the service. KNEELERS MAY PUT DOWN BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGINS AND KEPT DOWN THROUGHOUT (avoiding the extra noise). The "A" is for Assisting Minister, the "P" is for Presiding Minister; "left side" for all left of center aisle, "right side" for all right of center aisle.

(Please remember to leave worship in silence tonight)

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

HYMN #324 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing, light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

LORD'S PRAYER AND APOSTLES' CREED

The assembly kneels as they are able and whispers softly.

Pastor: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

All: have mercy on us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.***

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

NOCTURN 1

HYMN #349 "Ah, Holy Jesus" verses 1-2

Ah, Holy Jesus



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

**1 Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
 that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
 By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
 O most afflicted.**

**2 Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
 Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
 I crucified thee.**

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PSALM 2 (read antiphonally)

A: ¹Why are the nations in an uproar?
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

Males: ²Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together,
against the LORD and against the LORD's anointed?
³"Let us break their yoke," they say;
"let us cast off their bonds from us."

Females: ⁴God whose throne is in heaven is laughing;
the LORD holds them in derision.
⁵Then in wrath God speaks to them,
and in rage fills them with terror.
⁶"As for me, I have anointed my king
upon Zion, my holy mountain."

A: ⁷Let me announce the decree of the LORD,
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I begotten you."
⁸Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for your possession.
⁹You shall crush them with an iron rod
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

Males: ¹⁰And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.

Females: ¹¹Submit to the LORD with fear, and with trembling bow in worship;
¹²lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.

All: Happy are all who take refuge in God!

✠ The first candle is extinguished. ✠

PSALM 54 (read antiphonally)

A: ¹Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

Females: ²Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

A: ³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life,
those who have no regard for God.

Females: ⁴Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.
⁵Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

A: ⁶I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.

Females: ⁷For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye looks down on my enemies.

✠ The second candle is extinguished. ✠

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PSALM 15 (read antiphonally)

A: ¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

Males: ²Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;
³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

A: ⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

Males: ⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes
against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

✠ The third candle is extinguished. ✠

LORD'S PRAYER

The assembly kneels as they are able and whispers softly.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those

who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

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HYMN #349 "Ah, Holy Jesus" verses 4-5

**4 For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation;
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,
for my salvation.**

**5 Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee;
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.**

READING: Zechariah 13:1-6; Matthew 23:37, 26:45

¹On that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity.

²On that day, says the LORD of hosts, I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, so that they shall be remembered no more; and also I will remove from the land the prophets and the unclean spirit. ³And if any prophets appear again, their fathers and mothers who bore them will say to them, "You shall not live, for you speak lies in the name of the LORD"; and their fathers and their mothers who bore them shall pierce them through when they prophesy. ⁴On that day the prophets will be ashamed, every one, of their visions when they prophesy; they will not put on a hairy mantle in order to deceive, ⁵but each of them will say, "I am no prophet, I am a tiller of the soil; for the land has been my possession since my youth." ⁶And if anyone asks them, "What are these wounds on your chest?" the answer will be "The wounds I received in the house of my friends."

P: Jerusalem, O Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent against you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing?

All: Behold, the hour is at hand, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

READING: Zechariah 10:3-4, 6, 8, 12:10, 12a; Isaiah 53:8

³My anger is hot against the shepherds,
and I will punish the leaders;
for the LORD of hosts cares for his flock, the house of Judah,
and will make them like his proud war-horse.

⁴Out of them shall come the cornerstone,
out of them the tent peg,
out of them the battle bow,
out of them every commander.

⁶I will strengthen the house of Judah,
and I will save the house of Joseph.
I will bring them back because I have compassion on them,
and they shall be as though I had not rejected them;
for I am the LORD their God and I will answer them.

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

⁸I will signal for them and gather them in,
for I have redeemed them,
and they shall be as numerous as they were before.

¹⁰And I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn. ¹²The land shall mourn, each family by itself; the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves.

P: By a perversion of justice he was taken away.

All: Who could have imagined his future?

✠ The fourth candle is extinguished. ✠

NOCTURN II

✠ The sanctuary darkens. ✠

PSALM 27:1-7 (read antiphonally)

A: ¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

Left Side: The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Right Side: ²When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh —
my adversaries and foes — they shall stumble and fall.

Left Side: ³Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

Right Side: ⁴One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

Left Side: ⁵For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

All: ⁶**Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**
⁷**Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!**

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✠ The fifth candle is extinguished. ✠

PSALM 40:1-3, 14, 16-17 (read antiphonally)

A: ¹I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

Left Side: ²He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

Right Side: ³He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

A: ¹⁴Let all those be put to shame and confusion who seek to snatch away my life;
let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire my hurt.

Left Side: ¹⁶But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the LORD!"

All: ¹⁷**As for me, I am poor and needy, but the LORD takes thought for me.
You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God.**

✠ The sixth candle is extinguished. ✠

PSALM 88:1-3, 4B, 5B, 7-9 (read antiphonally)

A: ¹O LORD, God of my salvation, when, at night, I cry out in your presence,
²let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my cry.

All: ³**For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol.**
^{4b}**I am like those who have no help,**
^{5b}**like those whom you remember no more,**
for they are cut off from your hand.

A: ⁷Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and you overwhelm me with all your waves.

All: ⁸**You have caused my companions to shun me;**
you have made me a thing of horror to them.
I am shut in so that I cannot escape;
⁹**my eye grows dim through sorrow.**
Every day I call on you, O LORD; I spread out my hands to you.

✠ The seventh candle is extinguished. ✠

LORD'S PRAYER

The assembly kneels as they are able and whispers slowly and softly.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

HYMN #351 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded verses 3-4

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

**3 What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.**

**4 Lord, be my consolation; shield me when I must die;
remind me of thy passion when my last hour draws nigh.
These eyes, new faith receiving, from thee shall never move;
for all who die believing die safely in thy love.**

READING Matthew 26:31-34; Isaiah 53:5

³¹Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

³²But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." ³³Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." ³⁴Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."

P: ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;

All: **upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.**

READING Luke 22:47-53; Isaiah 53:6

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; ⁴⁸but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" ⁴⁹When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. ⁵²Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? ⁵³When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

P: ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way,

All: **and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

READING: Mark 15:6-15; Isaiah 53:7

⁶Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. ⁷Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. ⁹Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. ¹²Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³They shouted back, "Crucify him!" ¹⁴Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" ¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

A: ⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;

**All: like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.**

✝ The eighth candle is extinguished. ✝

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NOCTURN III

HYMN #353 "Were You There" verse 1

Were You There



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Text: African American spiritual
Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual

**1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

✠ The sanctuary darkens. ✠

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

PSALM 143:1-4 (read antiphonally)

A: ¹Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my supplications in your faithfulness; answer me in your righteousness.

Left Side: ²Do not enter into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.

P: ³For the enemy has pursued me, crushing my life to the ground, making me sit in darkness like those long dead.

Left Side: ⁴Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.
⁵I remember the days of old, I think about all your deeds, I meditate on the works of your hands.
⁶I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.

✠ The ninth candle is extinguished. ✠

READING: John 19:16b-20; 1 Peter 2:23a

¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus; ¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

P: ²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse;

All: when he suffered, he did not threaten.

✠ The tenth candle is extinguished. ✠

HYMN #353 "Were You There" verse 2

**2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

✠ The sanctuary darkens. ✠

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

PSALM 22:1-2, 14-18 (read antiphonally)

A: ¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

P: ²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

**All: ¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;**

A: ¹⁵my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

P: ¹⁶For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shriveled; ¹⁷I can count all my bones.

**All: They stare and gloat over me;
¹⁸they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.**

✠ The eleventh candle is extinguished. ✠

READING: John 19:23-25a; 1 Peter 2:24a

²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did.

P: ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,

All: so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness.

✠ The twelfth candle is extinguished. ✠

HYMN #353 "Were You There" verse 3

3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

**Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble.**

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

PSALM 69:1-4, 8-9, 17

A: ¹Save me, O God,
for the waters have come up to my neck.

Right Side: ²I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold;
I have come into deep waters, and the flood sweeps over me.

P: ³I am weary with my crying; my throat is parched.
My eyes grow dim with waiting for my God.

Right Side: ⁴More in number than the hairs of my head
are those who hate me without cause;
many are those who would destroy me,
my enemies who accuse me falsely.

A: What I did not steal must I now restore?
⁸I have become a stranger to my kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.

Right Side: ⁹It is zeal for your house that has consumed me;
the insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.
¹⁷Do not hide your face from your servant,
for I am in distress — make haste to answer me.

✠ **The thirteenth candle is extinguished.** ✠

READING: John 19:25b-30; 1 Peter 2:25;

^{25b}Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. ²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

P: ²⁵By his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep,
All: but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

✠ **The fourteenth candle is extinguished.** ✠

HYMN #353 Were You There verse 5

**5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

LORD'S PRAYER

The assembly kneels as they are able and whispers slowly and softly.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

READING: John 19:38-42; Mark 10:33-34

³⁸After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

P: ³³ See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; ³⁴ they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him;

All: and after three days he will rise again.

HYMN #196 "O Christ, Lamb of God"

O Christ, Lamb of God

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take
a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - men.

Music: J. Bugenhagen, *Christliche Ordnung*, 1528

**O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. Amen.**

✠ The sanctuary darkens. ✠

✠ The Christ candle is removed. ✠

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

LORD'S PRAYER

The assembly kneels as they are able and whispers slowly and softly.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

✠ The Christ candle returns. ✠

ALL RISE AND DEPART IN SILENCE

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Life and death stand side by side on Good Friday. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. (*John 1:5*)

This evening we welcome Pastor Bruce Kaifler.

Offering's may be placed in the plate in the Narthex, before or after worship.

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil at St Thomas

April 8: 5pm

Easter Sunday

April 9: 8:45 am or 11:15 am

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.